

In the late sixTIES FLUXUS ACTIVITIES MERGED, TO an extent, with those of hippies, FREAKs, AND OTHER DROP outs. SoHo, the centre of fluxus activity IN NORTH AMERICA, WAS geographically situated at THE HEART OF THE EAST COAST HIPPIE scene; and while fluxus UNDOUBTEDLY EXERTED AN OFTEN UNPERceived influence ON THE FLOWER children, the FREAK LIFE-STYLE ALSO left ITS MARK ON FLUXUS. The hippie influence APPEARS TO BE THE CAUSE OF THE MOVE away from concerts and OTHER FORMAL PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS at the end of the sixties. The ONLY LIVE FLUXUS EVENTS IN NEW York during '68 and '69 werE NEW YEARS EVE FLUXFEASTs. THE sensual and indulgent naTURE OF THE FEASTS PLACE THEM IN diametrical opposition to THE

SEVERITY OF EARLY FLUXUS  
MANIFESTATIONS. Similarly, *the*  
*FLUXSHOW*, *FLUXSPORTS*, AND  
FLUX**mass**, **which** took place at  
Doug/*AS* COLLEGE, NEW BRUNSWICK,  
New Jersey, in February 1970 were  
veRY DIFFERENT TO EARLY FLuxus events  
and contrasted sharply with THE  
FLUXUS ACTIVITIES STILL being carried  
out in Europe. FOR THE FLUXMASS, THE  
PRIESTS' ASSISTANTS wore gorilla  
costumes, THE SACRAMENTAL WINE WAS  
STORED IN A plasma tank and DISHED  
OUT THROUGH *a hose*, THE WAFERS WERE  
BLUe cookies laced WITH LAXATIVE, the  
bread *was* CONSECRATED BY A  
MEchanical DOVE SHITTING INTO it,  
smoke *bombs* WERE USED AS  
CANDLES, AND AN INFLATABLE superman  
filled *with WINE* WAS BLED. THIS WAS  
ACCOMPANIED by sounds varying from

**RECORDINGS** OF BARKING DOGS AND LOCOMOTIVES to bird calls and **gun SHOTS**. The Yippie *no*MINATION OF A PIG CALLED **Pigasus** **for president** was part of *the* MOVEMENT'S INTERVENTION IN **Chicago during the August 1968** DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. **THIS piece** of **guerilla theatre** TURNED INTO **riOTS** AND IN SEPTEMBER 1969 **eight left-wing** RADICALS, INCLUDING *the* YIPPIES **ABBE HOFF**Man and **Jerry Rubin**, FOUND THEMSELVES BROUGHT BEFORE **JUDGE Julius Hoffman** IN WHAT BECAME KNOWN **as the CHIGACO CONSPIRACY Trials**. IN THE **COURSE** of court **proceedings**, THE **JUDGE GOT INTO** NUMEROUS Arguments with the **defendants** AND THEIR COUNCIL. *WHEN THE jury retired to consider its verdict*, THE **JUDGE SENTENCED ALL** The

*defendants, and their council, to*  
**peRIODS** OF **IMPRISONMENT** *for contempt*  
*of court during the trial.* The  
**OBVIOUS** **BIAS** OF **The** *Judge* *in*  
*conducting* the trial and his  
**SENTENCING** **WAS** **WIDELY** *criticised;*  
*the Chicago Conspiracy Trials* **BECAME**  
**THE** **most** **famous** *in American history.*  
The *resulting* **PRISON** **SENTENCES**  
**SHOwed** **American** *capitalism* *as*  
*being* **MORE** **OPPRESSIVE** **THAN** **THE**  
**Yippies** **had** *imagined.* The *YIPPIE*  
*MOVEMENT* **UNDERWENT** **A** **Slow**  
**disintegration** **as** **its** **SUPPORTERS**  
**DISCOVERED** **THAT** **THE** **CAPItalist** **system**  
**really** **was** **AS** **EVIL** **AS** **THEIR** **RHETORic**  
*implied.*